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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Eduardo Manuel da Fonseca **Ramos** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 51st and 57th meetings, on 23 March and 9 April 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.51 and 57).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the revised budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/55/805 and Corr.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/839).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.49

4. At the 57th meeting, on 9 April, the representative of Croatia, coordinator of the informal consultations on this item and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/55/L.49).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.49 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1346 (2001) of 30 March 2001,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and resolutions 54/241 A and B of 23 December 1999 and 15 June 2000, respectively, on the financing of the Observer Mission and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 28 February 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 242.1 million United States dollars, representing some 41 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 11 per cent of the Member States have paid their

[1] A/55/805 and Corr.1.
[2] A/55/839.

assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

12. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone the amount of 73,273,600 dollars gross (73,784,400 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in addition to the amount of 504,399,051 dollars gross (496,545,461 dollars net) already appropriated under the terms of General Assembly resolution 54/241 B, inclusive of the amount of 23,931,281 dollars gross (20,250,873 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 3,741,370 dollars gross (3,328,988 dollars net) for the United Nations Logistics Base;

13. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 504,399,051 dollars gross (496,545,461 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 54/241 B, to apportion among Member States an additional amount of 36,636,800 dollars gross (36,892,200 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, the latest of which were resolution 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and decisions 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999 for the period 1998-2000, and resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 for the period 2001-2003, the scale of assessments for 2000[3] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 18,318,400 dollars gross (18,446,100 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for 2001[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 18,318,400 dollars gross (18,446,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

14. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 255,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 127,700 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 127,700 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

18. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

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[3] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[4] See resolution 55/5 B.